(c) whether there is any resentment amongst the workers against such discrimination in the MITCO factories at Giridih; if so, the details thereof and steps taken to settle the problem causing such agitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Allowance is admissible to the staff of the MITCO posted in factories of MITCO to compensate for the extra hours of duty performed by them at factories. Workers in MITCO's factories are not eligible for any such allowance as the terms and conditions governing their appointment are different.

(b) While the rates of LTC allowance payable to staff and workers are different, there is no picnic allowance payable to either staff or workers. The pay scales and fringe benefits payable to the staff and workers in MITCO are based on MITCO's agreement with the respective recognised unions of staff and workers.

(c) The wage revision for the workers is due with effect from 1-7-1988 and the workers have been asking for revision of wages and other terms and conditions including shift allowance and LTC Allowance. The Mica Trading Corporation has already constituted a Wage Committee to finalise revised pay Scales in consultation with the recognised Unions of Workers.

Chief Security Officer and Dy. Chief Security Officer in Secretariat Security Force

3451. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Security Officer and Deputy Chief Security Officer in the Secretariat Security Force are on deputation from CRPF/BSF;

(b) if so, the details of their deputation; and

(c) the reasons for not filling the posts on regular basis in view of the fact that they are commanding a force exceeding 1000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Post of Chief Security Officer is held by a departmental officer on ad-hoc basis. While one of the two posts of Dy. Chief Security officer is held by an officer on deputation from BSF since 3-3-1988, the other post of Dy. Chief Security Officer is vacant.

(c) Action to fill the posts of Chief Security Officer and Dy. Chief Security Officer on regular basis is in progress.

Secretariat Security Force

3452. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nomenclature of Secretariat Security Force prior to 1968 was MHA Security Police;

(b) if so, the reasons for changing the nomenclature; and

(c) the reasons for which the employees of the Force are not allowed the same pay and allowances as are admissible to the para-military forces like CRPF/BSF etc. while the duties are more or less the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) In the initial stages of its formation the Secretariat Security Force (SSF) was known as MHA Security Police. However, in due course of time the duties and functions of the Force were made more broad-based and realistic and the Force was expanded to cover a significant number of Central Secretariat Offices all over Delhi. This necessitated a change in nomenclature.

(c) it is not correct to say that the duties of SSF employees are more or less

same as those of CRPF/BSF etc. While CRPF|BSF are armed forces of the Union, the members where of carry the liability of posting to any part of India and have to perform hazardous duties of law and order including the guarding of the country's borders (in case of BSF), this is not the case with SSF which is of un-armed character and performs duties of watch and ward and regulation of entry to Central Government Offices in Delhi.

Spurt in princes of Non-ferrous Metals

3453. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the spurt in world prices for non-ferrous metals and a continuing depreciation of the rupee has hit the operations of several manufacturers including producers of cables automobile components and galvanised products;

(b) whether it is a fact that the incidence of the duties on all metals and scrap made the consumers of metal products bear a heavy burden; and

(c) whether Government propose to evolve an entirely new policy for tackling problems relating to non-ferrous metals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) Government is aware of the problem of the rising prices of non-ferrous metals because of the increase of prices in the international market and have taken steps to reduce the customs duties on non-ferrous metals from time to time.

Involvement of Society in Water Management

3454. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ancient Indain methods of collecting rain water in ponds, small check dams and sub-soil dams would help tackle the massive problems of soil erosion and create self confidence and involvement of society in water management; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to revive the ancient Indian methods in preference to spenning huge amounts on major irrigation projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) In view of the increasing demand of water in the developing society, the National Water Policy recommends optimal use of water resources for various purpses. Watershed management is the accepted concept whicth includes conservation of land and water resources.

Revival of LIC Policies

3455. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether LIC has recently carried out a campaign to revive LIC policies;

(b) whether it is a fact that this campaign did not properly touch rural areas;

(c) the steps being taken to extend this campaign for a further period; and

(d) what are the reasons for not reaching the rural areas properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation of India had launched a special revival campaign during the period from 1st December, 1988 to 28th February, 1989.

(b) to (d) Apart from issuing necessary instructions to all LIC's servicing